## RIVIER AWARDED FEDERAL NURSING GRANT OF UP TO \$930,000 TO ENHANCE THE REGION'S WORKFORCE DIVERSITY

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The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), a division of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, has awarded Rivier University a \$230,000 HRSA Nursing Workforce Diversity Grant for 2014. This grant comes with a recommendation for two additional years of funding totaling \$700,000 for a three-year maximum award of \$930,000.

This federal grant, one of approximately 15 awarded nationally, is designed to enhance nursing workforce diversity within the Nashua region. "The grant focuses on underrepresented and first-generation students and will support scholarships and stipends, academic enrichment and diversity activities, and enhanced cultural competency programs," says Sister Paula Marie Buley, IHM, President, who credits the Division of Nursing for the grant award.

Dean of Nursing Paula Williams adds, "Receiving this grant is truly an honor and a privilege. We look forward to welcoming and supporting many more students from diverse backgrounds into our programs. The scholarships, stipends, and academic enrichment opportunities, which the grant will allow, open so many paths for students who otherwise might not have found their way to Rivier University and to the nursing workforce in the Nashua region and beyond."

Currently, the University offers an associate and a bachelor's degree in nursing, a Master of Science in Nursing with several track options, three post-master's certificates, a Doctorate of Education in Leadership and Learning with a Nursing Education Specialization, and a new Bachelor of Science in Public Health.